WASHINGTON

The Retrenchment Wrangle in the Senate.

Lengthened and Infinished Debate-Nve Droll and Schurz Caustie-Ten Republican Senators in Opposition-A Test Vote.

THE APPORTIONMENT BILL PASSED.

Exhibit of the Altered Representation in the Several States.

THE "MERCENARY POREIGNER."

Barrett's Rebel Cotton Loan Claim Thrown Cut by the Commission.

Ex-Senator Williams Appointed Attorney General.

Report of the Southern Claims Commission.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14, 1871. The British and American Claims Commis-sion—The "Blarsted Britishers" Invest ment in the Confederate Loan-Robert S. Demurrer-Barrett's Claim Dis-

n of the British-American Claims Commission to-day was devoted to the case of Eqward Albert Barrott against the United States. This European gentleman, who resides in London, and did anything in the naturalization way. eges in his memorial that he purchased a bond of a face value of £200 sterling in the cotton loan of derate States of America, on which he was to receive seven per cent interest till the bond was redeemed at par. He complains that in 1866 the United States seized all the assets of the confederacy, cially a very large quantity of cotton hypothe-d by the confederate government for the ment of this and similar bonds, and thus prepayment of this and similar bonds, and that provented the payment of the bondholders, besides mopping the interest for six and a half years. He therefore demands from the United States the sum therefore demands from the United States the sum 4391 sterling in satisfaction of his claim, under fible twelve of the Treaty of Washington. In be-aif of the United States Counsellor Robert S. Hale mans to the jurisdiction of the mixed commison the ground that by the twelfth article of treety the claims against the United submitted to the adjudication of the commission are those of subjects of Her Britannic Majesty arising out of acts committed against the serious or property of subjects of Her Britannic Majesty during the time limited by that article. This language is plain and unambiguous. It limits the claims to those technically known as "torts." and those 'toria" committed against the persons or property of the claimants. It could not be contended that the claims as appointed would not be contended that the claims as appointed would include a claim.

the claims so submitted would include a claim ontract against the United States, though led directly on a contract duly executed by an rised effect of that government, and plainly ed by that government. Much less can it be held lade a contract executed by and in the name of pinelude a contract executed by and in the name of a insurrectionary organisation, in violation of the institution and laws of the United States, seeking the subversion of that government, levying war post that finally suppressed by its power. Notathstanding the spectous attempts to diaguise the realisation of this claim under an allegation of the section of this claim under an allegation of the section by the so-called Confederate States or the security of their debts, it is really neither some her less than a claim to hold the United States able for the debts of those lately in rehellion liable for the debts of those lately in rebellion against them, contracted in the very course of such rebellion, in aid of it, and from which it drew its chief support. To believe for a moment that the United States ever intended to submit such , to do violence to the language of the treaty mily the history of that government, by imanything in its past career or present condition. It would be to believe that the United States have deliberately signified their willingness, at the award commission, to pay debts contracted by their ed enemies for the sole purpose of the aismemberment of their government and the destruction of their liberties—debts held deepest abhorrence by the unanimous

ent of their loyal people, and debts, the mption or payment of which, in any form, by ed States, or any one of their constituent States, has been prohibited by solemn constitutional enactment, by that fundamental law to which all treaties, as well as all statutes, are subject. When the government and people of the United States shall acknowledge that in their recent successful struggie with rebellion they were wholly in the wrong and the rebels wholly in the right, when they shall determine to compensate the rebels themselves for their losses in person and property by the war, pension their widows and orphans and repudiate the debt of the federal govment contracted for the suppression of the rebellion, then, and not till then, will they consider the question of paying the mercenary foreign subscribers to the rebelloans, more criminal in their eves, or, as least, sharing more of their abhorrence than any participants in the gigantic crime. The language of the treaty itself is believed the character of that in question. If any ambiguity could be found in that language it would be fully could be found in that language it would be fully removed by reference to the protocols of conference of the Joint High Commissioners and to facts of universal cognizance in connection with them. By the thirty-sixth protocol, under the head of "articles 12 to 17," it appears that the American Commissioners, when invited by their British colleagues to include within the terms of the treaty another clear of clears by their british colleagues.

of the treaty another class of claims by Her Ma-josty's subjects against the United States, declined so to do, saying, "that, in their view, the subject was not embraced in the scope of the correspond-ence between Sir Edward Thornton and Mr. Pish, under either of the letters of the former, and that they did not feel justified in entering upon the consideration of any class of claims not contemplated at the time of the creation of the present com-mission;" and on referring to the correspondence between Sir Edward Thornton and Mr. Fish, named in the protocol, it will be found that the first mention of or reference to the claims covered by the tweifth article is contained in the letter Edward to Mr. Fish, under date of February 1. 1871, and that in that letter he designates them as claims "arising out of acts committed" same language which was subsequently copied into the treaty, and with the addition (by way of giving greater point and accuracy) of the further words
"against the persons or property of subjects of Her
Britannic Majesty." It must be borne in mind that at the time of this correspondence, as well as at the time of the conclusion and ratification of the treaty, the constitution of the United States contained an express prohibition of the assumption or payment of these debts by

of the United States, executive, legislative and

adicial, was thus bound by the supreme law of the

sull any provision of any treaty or statute in con

travenuon of that constitutional prohibition, under penalty of impeachment or its equivalent. That

the existence of this constitutional provision was well known, not only to the Secretary of State,

the Commissioners, the Chief Executive and the Senate of the United States, all parties on the part of the United States to the treaty

equally well known to the British Minister and to the British High Commissioners. It cannot, fore, be for a moment believed that the Ame fore, be for a moment believed that the American Secretary, in his acceptance of the proposition of Sir Edward, by his letter of February 3, the President of the United States in directing that acceptance, the American members of the Joint High Commission in negotiating and concluding the treaty, the President in ratifying or the Senate of the United States, in advising and consenting to the same, ever intended to embody in it a provision which should violate the fundamental law of the nation, or that the ministers and Commissioners of Her Britannia Majesty so understood them to intend. In case, too, of any possible ambiguity, it must be borne in mind that this language first emanated from Her Majesty's hinister, and that by the settled rules of diplomatic as well as legal construction, the party employing ambiguous language is debarred from any benefit of the ambiguity. But the United States insist that the language is not ambiguous; that it is plain and the language is not ambiguous; that it is plain and explicit, and that within it a claim of this character

has no place within the matters submitted by the treaty to this Commission for its decision. Mr. Hale declares himself warranted in saying Mr. Hale declares himself warranted in saying that the words "arising out of acts committed" were deliberately and intentionally inserted by Sir Edward, in his letter of February 1, repeated by Secretary Fish in his letter of February 3, and copied and elaborated by the Joint High Commissioners in the twelfth article of the treaty, for the express purpose of excluding all the treaty of the commissioners of the passible claims of the passible claims of the passible claims. possible claims of the nature of the debts of the States laiely in rebellion, singly or under any at-

He also alleges that if the counsel for the United States deemed himself at liberty to discuss the merits of the claim here presented, as within the jurisdiction of the Commission to decide, the answer to the claim, on its merits, would be palpable, self-suggesting and conclusive; but he expressly disclaims all intention of such discussion, and asks the dismission of the claim on the ground specified in his motion.

The Commissioners announce their opinion that

The Commissioners announce their opinion that the United States is not hable for the payment of Gebts contracted by the rebel authorities. The rebellion was against the United States for the establishment in a portion of its territory of a new State in the family of nations, and it failed. Persons contracting with the so called Confederate States voluntarily assumed the risk of such failure and accepted its obligations, subject to the paramount rights of the parent State to crush the rebel organization by force and seize its assets and property, whether hypothecated to its creditors or unpledged. These builtgerent rights of the United States to seize and hold were not subordinate to the contract rights of creditors of the crushed rebellion, and when such seizure and possession were actually accom-plished, it terminated any claims of creditors to the property. The present claimant, therefore, is held to have nad no interest in the property described in

It is well understood that no expectation was entertained in any quarter that Mr. Barrett's claim would progress beyond the demurrer of the United States; and the cotton bondholders' syndicate at London has accomplished all it expected by obtain ing further record evidence of the fact that the bondholders have never for a moment abated their original pretensions or lost an opportunity to apply for a redress of their alleged injuries.

The Retreschment Commission Question is the Senate-Lively and Bitter Debate-Trambull's Amendment Lost by 35 to 24-

The Row Respond.

The political fight in the Senate, on the resolution for a standing committee on retrenchment and investigation, consumed the entire day and is not yet ended. Senator Wilson opened the debate declaring that though there was no disposition among Senators to shield the administration yet the country thought so. Thus he kept on both sides of the questions. thought so. Thus he kept on both sides of the ques-tion till the close of his speech, and was followed by Senator Nyo in praise of President Grant's policy. Nye was replied to by Schurz. During the speech of the latter there were two or three little episodes which developed the bearings of the fight. Schurz charged that Leet kept the general order business in the New York Custom House, not-withstanding the Secretary of the Treasury had time and again requested his removal; but was completably emburtamed on being asked by Mr. Conking to demonstrate his assertion, and only escaped by the aid of Mr. Sumner, was, after Schurz had succeeded in pointing out two or three letters from the Secretary on the subject, declared that three were "time and again." Schurz again charged that some and again." Schurz again charged that of Mr. Murphy's inspectors were shown to be daily in the habit of taking bribes, and yet they had not been removed. Senator Patterson explained for the Secretary of the Treasury that the tee on Retrenchment, and, consequently, the re-movals had not been made. After Schurz came Tipton, in a real old-fashioned Western speech, which begun by an allusion to Dr. Newman's prayer on the day the Senate convened, in which the Chaplain thanked the Supreme Being that, though a cyclone of curruption had swept over the country and much has been taken, there was still a little more left. Tipton's personal allusions were gens in their way, the President being referred to as an intellectual Colossus, the Collector of the Port of Philadelphia he pointed out as an officer who ought not to be pertinaciously followed, but simply watched, and described Senator Conkling as standing over the grave of something connected with the administration it is difficult to tell what; in the majestic attitude of a republican deity. After much talking there was a vote on Trumbuil's amendment, which would have allowed the committee to carry on very extensive investigations and to continue its sessions during the recess. The amendment was lost by 85 to 24: ten republicans—Senators Fenton, Logan, Patterson, Robertson, Schurz, Sumner, Tipton, Trumoull, Wilson and West—voted for the amendment. The resolution was then agreed to, after which Trumbuil moved to instruct the com-mittee to inquire into the expenditures of public money and the accountability of public officers, the power of the committee to make these investiga-tions being confined to the present session of Con-gress. Then the fight began again, Senator Sher-man calling Senator Trumbull to order and coolly making a speech himself, and Trumbull replying in the best speech he has yet made. As the fight pro-

republican party. Passage of the Apportionment Bill by the

gresses it grows more bitter, and the outside talk now is, to read the recalcitrant Senators out of the

House.
The grand fight in the House did not come off todar, owing to the interminable discussion of the Apportionment bill. This matter being out of the way, everything will be ready to-morrow morning for the battle on the Geneva Conference. Everything which is in reserve will be developed and the grand blow in the preparation for the coming political campaign will be struck. Much interest is manliested in the contest which is about to take place, and the change from the rather dull proceedings of to-day to the more stirring matter of to-morrow can not tail to be very agreeable. The House had a long session, but the most that can be said for it is that the Apportionment bill is out of the way.
Immediately after the reading of the journal the
House went into committee of the whole on the bill,
taking up General Butler's pending amendment, providing for a uniform time of voting for Presidential electors in all the States. General Butler not being present to protect it, his nmendment met with savage treatment.
First Mr. Stevenson, of Ohio, amended the by excepting Maine and Indiana from the provisions of the bill until the year 1876, giving these States an opportunity to amend their State constitutions to conform to the requirements. Mr. Randall offered an amendment to include Pennsylvanta for the same reason, which was carried. Mr. Keilogg, of Connecticut, proposed that Vermont be also excepted, Mr. Dawes adding California and Texas. Mr. McCrary, of Iowa, asked to have lows put on the list of exceptions, which was done. Mr. Bright, of Tennessee, offered a substitute for the pending bill before the committee and spoke in favor of its provisions. His bill takes the total representative population, deducting the disfranchised, and divides the remainder by 243, the number he proposed the House to commun of to and the beam of representa-

tion. The population of each State is then to be divided by the basis of representation to find the number of representatives. The fractional remainnumber of representatives. The fractional remainders are to count the largest in additional representatives till the number 243 is reached,
but each State is to have at least one representative, Mr. Mercur opposed this proposition.
When General Butler arrived and learned the fate
of his amendment offered yesterday he hastened to
recover the ground lost by his absence. He offered
an amendment providing for a uniform day of election, covering his original resolution. With varying fortunes and modifications it finally passed, ing fortunes and modifications it finally passed, being offered in a new dress by Mr. Killinger, pro-viding that the measure should not become operative until 1876. The discussion on the Apportunment bill proceeded, with various propositions for fixing the number of Representatives at different figures. Mr. Poland, representing the extreme East, proposed 291. Mr. Cox quoted high authority to prove that any legislative body numbering more than one hundred de-generated into a mob. At four o'clock Mr. Farnsgenerated into a mob. At four o'clock Mr. Farins-worth moved that the committee rise and report his bill to the House, recommending its bassage, Mr. Cox asking that it be committed to a select com-mittee for revision. After the bill was reported from the Committee of the Whole Mr. Niblack moved to "lay on the table," which was passage Mr. Farnsworth moved to strike out Mr. Potter's amendment, which was also lost. The bill as passed is substantially Mr. Murcur's, with Garfield's amendment, making the number of Representatives 283, and Platt's amendment, requiring resentatives 233, and Platt's amondment, requiring equal population in districts, and Killinger's amendment to Butler's amendment, providing for a uniform day for the election of Congressmen with the time of the Presidential election. The House adjourned till to-morrow, after a leeble attempt to fix the time for the next meeting for Monday. Resignation of Attorney General Akerma

cessor-His Nomination Confirmed-The

Martuary Correspondence, Notwithstanding the frequent statements that have been made that Attorney General Akerman had resigned his office, it was not until this morning that it became known for a fact. The President promptly accepted the resignation, and to-day sent to the Senate the name of his successor. n the person of George H. Williams, of Oregon There is no doubt that many gentlemen in public answer the purposes of his high position, and this opinion was shared by officers connected with the Executive Department of the government. The precise circumstances attending the change have ot yet transpired, but the appointment of Mr. Wil-

The Senate, in executive session to-day, took up the nomination of George H. Williams to be Attorney General of the United States and unanimously conferred it without reference to a committee. This was in accordance with the usage and courtesy in every case where the nominee had sufficiently known without requiring formal inquiry.

The following is the correspondence between Mr.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, WASHINGTON, Dec. 13, 1871.

To the President.

Sir.—I hereby resign the office of Attorney General of the United States. This resignation to take offect, in accordance with the wish which you verbally expressed to me to-day, on the 10th day of January next. Very respectfully,

A. T. AKERMAN.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, WASHINGTON, Dec. 13, 1871.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, WASHINGTON, Dec. 13, 1871.

TO THE PRESIDENT:—

DEAR SIR—In tendering the accompanying resignation of the office of Attorney General permit me to express my grateful sense of the kindness which I have uniformly received from you during my service in the office, and my ardeat wishes for the continued success of your administration.

Very respectfully,

A. T. AKERMAN.

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 13, 1871.

HOD. A. T. AKERMAN, Attorney General:—

MY DEAR SIR—In accepting your resignation as Attorney General, to take effect on the 10th of January, permit me to renew the assurances of my high regards for you personally and my appreciation of the zeal and application which you have brought to the office which you have so honorably filled. I can refer with pride to the uniform harmony which has constantly existed, not only between us, but also between yourself and colleagues in the Cabines, all of whom, I know, unite with me in hearty wishes for your future propaperity, health and happiness. Your personal note accompanying your letter of resignation is gratefully received as a token of reciprocity of kind sentiment, which I shall ever appreciate. Very respectfully.

Nominations by the President.

Nominations by the President. The President to-day sent to the Senate the of Joseph M. Carey, to be Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Wyoming; Charles Agent at Cincinnati, Ohio; David W. Mahon, of Pennsylvania, to be First Auditor of the Treasury; the Treasury: Benjamin J. Sweet, of Illinois, to be First Deputy Commissioner of Internal Revenue.

Confirmations by the Senate.

The Senate, in executive session, to-day confirmed

the following nominations:the following nominations:—

George H. Boker, of Pennsylvania, Minister Resident at Constantinople, vice Wavne McVeigh, resigned; Thomas W. Bennett, of Iudinas, Governor of Idaho, vice Thomas M. Bowen, resigned; Marse Glddings, of Michigao, Governor of New Mexico, vice. Willard Warner, declined; David B. Nevins, of Pennsylvanias, Pension Agent for the Widows' Agency, Philadelphia; Horatio G. Sickles, Pension Agent for invalid pensions at Philadelphis, vice William A. Forbes, suspended under the Tenure of Office law.

Awards of the Southern Claims Commis The Commissioners of Southern War Claims sent in their first report to Congress to-day, accompanied by their decisions on 580 cases, of which they wholly disallow 256, and award some three hundred and fifty thousand dollars in settlement of the others, They report their action on the several questions that have arisen in the course of their proceedings. and have ruled on the question of citizenship that they have no jurisdiction of the claims of foreigness domiciled in the United States, however loyal they may have been.

The restricted jurisdiction of the Commissioners

is to the subject matters of allowance, and the difficulty of meeting the requirements of the law, and the rules as to evidence and loyalty, accounts for the readmess with which from fifty to seventy-five million dollars' worth of alleged indebtedness is to be paid in full with one-fifth of that amount.

The Committee on Foreign Affairs.
The House Committee on Foreign Affairs met today. It did not mention Cuba. They have had a surfeit of Geneva, or are reserving themselves for the debate which will begin to-morrow, and content the debate which will begin to morrow, and content themselves with again directing the chairman to report an appropriation bill for \$100,000 to defray the expenses of the Northwest Boundary Commission. Claims for Saving Our Shipwrecked Whaters. The British bark Chance and the Hawaiian bark

Arctic, the vessels which saved and brought to lonolulu the wrecked seamen of the whaling fleet ecently broken up by the ice in the North have presented to this government claim for the service rendered to the amount of \$9,620, being at the rate of \$85 for each seaman. As there is a fund at the disposal of the government for the assistance of wrecked or abanloned American seamen it is probable that these ressels will receive such an amount as, in the opinion of the Secretary of the Treasury, will be a easonable compensation for the service rendered.

Steamboat Men Complain. The House Committee on Commerce gave a hear-ing this morning to a large delegation of steamboat owners, who ask for legislation to relieve them of what they deem onerous regulations in the matter of ille-preserving and other apparatus.

Important to "Trummers." The effect of the decision of the United States Su preme Court, recently announced, in the case of Ward vs. the State of Maryland, is to declare unconarithtional and vold State or city laws compelling commercial travellers to take out local licenses which are not equally exacted of resident dealers These laws have heretofore prevailed in various States and cisies in the South and West. The recent ease was contested under authority of the Society of Commercial Travellers.

The Soldiers' and Sallers' Home and Orphan

On November 33 last, the tickets in the gift conert for the benefit of the Soldiers' and Sallors' Home and Orphans' Asylum were publicly drawn, to getner with the prizes, and temporarily placed in the vault of the Safe Deposit Company. To-day they were opened by a committee of the citizens in the presence of a number of tietes holders, The

proceedings were considered fair. The Commisners and Trustees will send a list of the draw-

A draft for \$1,512 71 has been received at the Treasury Department from unknown parties for duties in currency payable at the port of New York.

Y-SECOND CONGRESS. Arra Second Semion.

Comp rme

SENATE WASHINGTON, Dec. 14, 1871.

A VENEZUELAN SQUALL Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, (rep.), of N. J., presented a emorial of the Venezuela Steam Navigation Company, composed of citizens of New York and New Jersey, complaining of the seizure of their vessels United States government to procure redress.

In presenting it he said that the citizens of this

country who had dealings with Venezuela had many grievances to complain of which might yet necessitate severe measures on the part of our gov-

Mr. SUMNER, (rep.) of Mass., said that he had ex-

Mr. Sumner, (rep.) of Mass., said that he had examined the question in dispute, naturally hoping and expecting to find his own country in the right, but he regretted to have to say that he had found her in the wrong.

The petition referred to is from J. W. Hancox, the President of the Venezuela Steam Transportation Company, and prays that a guitosate sent to demand the release of the steamers Hergmatrias, Dudley Back and Ban Fernando, and their officers and crows. The petitioner says that in the year 1869 the Venezuelan government passed an act opening the navigation of its rivers to foreigners, with power to sail under their national flag; that durling that year the company despatched those vessels from the United States, but on the 12th of October General Hernandes, the ohtef of the revolutionary party, seized them and converted them into war vessels. The petitioner took proofs of the capture of these vessels and their officers and forwarded the partment. Not only the release indemnity for the damage sust.

The petition. was referred I Foreign Relations. Mr. Buckingham, (rep.) o

Foreigh Relations.

Mr. Buckingham, (rep.) o memorial against woman suft than ten thousand of the most.

Lie women in the country have now significant able women in the country have now significant and in the country have now significant in the country have now significant in the country have now significant in the configuration of the most respected, takented and inducatial women of ten different states. Over sixteen hundred of them live in Connecticut, and in looking over the last I find that I know many of them.

THEY ARE NOT MANLY WOMEN, but women of good sense, and their judgment is entitled to consideration. They do not say anything about the abstract right of suffrage, but they say that, having aiready their full spare of the burdens and responsibilities of life, they fear that others more boid than they may succeed in having imposed upon them other burdens and responsibilities unsuited to them; and, therefore, they ask Congress to protect them from these dangers. They say that the extension of the suffrage to them will be adverse to the interests of the workingwomen; that it will introduce a fruitful element of discord into the existing marriage relation, and that it will be frought with danger to the general good order of the country. I sympathize with them. I see no possible benefit which can arise by the extension of suffrage to women—benefit to then or to the country.

Mr. Conkeing, (rep.) of N. Y., presented the petiwhich can arise by the extension of suffrage to women—benefit to them or to the country. Mr. Conkling, (rep.) of N. Y., presented the peti-tion of New York soldlers in the late war, recount-

and asking Congress to make some provision acknowledgment of their heroic and char

work.

Bills were introduced and referred as follows:—
By Mr. K.L.L.Y. (dem.) of Oregon—Extending the
time for the selection of swamp land in Oregon.

By Mr. BOOTT. (rep.) of Pa.—To promote the
fitting of efficient seamen for the navy of the United
States, prov.ding that in addition to the present
force of the navy there shall be annually received
into the service 300 boys between the ages of fitteen
and seventeen years, to serve as apprentices until
the age of twenty-one years, at such raises of pay as
may be fixed by the President of the United States,
and at the end of that time to be entitled to examination for promotion to the grade of seamen,
said seamen, however, not to be in addition to the
whole number of seamen at any time allowed by
law.

By Mr. Parterson, (rep.) of N. H.—To regulate the admission of publis from all parts of the Union into the Columbia Institution for the Dear and

certain settlers on public lands in Iowa under the homestend laws. By Mr. Pomenoy, (rep.) of Kansas—Granting lands to ald in the reclamation of desert lands in

By Mr. Pomency, (rep.) of Kansas—Granting lands to aid in the reclamation of desert lands in Utah Territory. Also to incorporate the Bear River and Cache Valley Cansi Company, with a grant of land in Utah and Idaho.

By Mr. Kelloud, (rep.) of La.—Imposing tonnage duties, and for other purposes; providing a cuty of thirty cents per ton, is hen of all tonnage duties now imposed, and prohibiting the collection of any taxes or duties on tonnage or cargoes by the several States, except wharfage and dockage.

Ocal. And Salr.

Mr. TRUMBULL, (rep.) of its, asked Mr. Sherman, as chairman of the Committee on Pinance, when the committee intended to report the flouse bill repealing the duties on coal and sait.

Mr. Sherman, (rep.) of Ohio, said that the committee were ready to report the bill with amendments; but regarding the internal and the external taxes as parts of one great system they thought it unadvisable to Lake up the Lariff question separately from the question of internal taxation, and, therefore, they were waiting for the House to develop somewhat further the course it intends to

therefore, they were waiting for the House to develop somewhat further the course it intends to pursue on the question of taxation.

Mr. Trumbull—Then I give notice that to-morrow I will move to discharge the Committee on Finance from the further consideration of the House bill repealing the duty ou coal and salt.

The Right Hour Labor Law.

On motion of Mr. Wilson, (rep.) of Mass., the senate took up the House bill to equalize the pay of workingmen under the Eight Hour law.

Mr. Trumbull's amendment repealing the law was also read.

Mr. Trumbull said that no one could be more in favor of rewarding and elevating labor than he, but this law had never had any such effect. It had done the workingman no good whatever, but, on the centrary, it had done great harm by exciting unpleasant feelings between those who are employed in the government, and working only eight hours, and those who are working outside and work ten hours. He thought, therefore, that it would be better for the workingmen and for the country to repeal the law.

Mr. Mobrill, (rep.) of VL, also favored the re-

law.

Mr. Morrill, (rep.) of VL, also favored the re-peal of the law. It was preposterous to enact such a law in the first place, and it was degrading to the orkingmen.

bill.

Mr. TRUMBULL withdrew the amendment.

Mr. FERRY, (rep.) of Conn., renewed it. He said he could not vote for the House bill, because it would give to the Eight Hour law a legislative construction contrary to that intended by the friends of the law and erroneous in itself. He remembered that when the Eight Hour bill was under discussion the advocates of it distinctly stated that it was not designed to secure men ten hours' pay for eight hours work.

Mr. Thursy, (con.)

designed to secure men ten hours work.

Mr. Thurman, (dem.) of Onio—Then what advantage would it be to the workingmen?

Mr. FERRY—Its advocates claimed that the workingmen would have more time for culture than under the old system.

The bill was referred to the Committee on The bill was referred to the Committee on Finance.
The Senate then resumed the consideration of Mr. Authory's resolution to create
A COMMITTEE ON RETRENGEMENT,
with Mr. Trumbuli's amendment authorizing it to sit during the recess and send for persons and papers.

with Mr. Trambull's amendment authorizing it to sit during the recess and send for persons and papers.

Ar. Wilson warned his republican friends that they were placing their party in a faise position before the country. Already there were millions throughout the country who believed that an attempt had been made in the Senate of the United States to shield the administration and the party that has control of it. He, of course, did not believe it to be true; but it was very important to appear right, as well as to be right. In 1886 the committee on Retrenchment had been organized, and during the four years of its existence it had righted a great many wrongs; but there shill remained work for it to do. He had no sympathy with those who desired to assail or embarrass the administration. The senate itself was a part of the successful administration of it, and the best irrends of both were those who were most vigilant in seeking out abuses and most active in taking measures for their correction. He was in favor of both the pending propositions. He thought it numies for the republicans of the Senate to go before the country with a divided vote upon the question of retrenchment. The public prints showed that there was a general suspicion abroad that some of the friends of the administration were trying to cover up abuses, and, therefore, he hoped there would be a unanimous vote for Mr. Trumbull's resolution, so as to let the people see that the republicans were determined to keep the administration were rollings by talking of the gigantic swindles in New York. There were

REPUBLICAN AS WELL AS DEMOCRATIC THIEVES, and a republican hielf was, to him, far the remained of the five word diagre. When the public prints and more efficient than most of its predecessors. No previous administration had ever been so prompt in punishing quinquency among its officers. Mr. Balis, ident, of Mo.—The Senator is very boastful about the purity and vigor of the administration. I wish to call his attention to a case in Arkansas, where a di

Mr. Scorr said the pre-immary measures for the comprai of the district attorney and the marshal

were taken before the finding of the indictment referred to.

Mr. Blair—I have equal means of knowledge and I say that the officers were turned out of office for finding an indictment against a person for violating a law of the United States.

Mr. Wilson said be was not boastful of the administration. He simply desired to be just, and therefore he said that the administration was seeking progress in the right direction, although a good deal more of it was necessary. He was not one of those republicans who thought

THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY DEAD.

He expected to encounter them in full force next year, and he warned his friends against relaxing their efforts in any degree in the vain hope that they would meet no vigorous opposition in 1872.

Mr. Nyz, (rep.) of Nev., thought that the subject before the Senate had been greatly magnified. This was an attempt to revive the old committee on air. NYE, (rep.) of Nev., thought that the subject before the Senate had been greatly magnified. This was an attempt to revive the old committee on retrenchment, which had died a year ago by common consent. That committee had been created originally as a special instrument to correct the abuses that had grown up under the Johnson administration and had gone on until about a year ago, when, finding that in the pure light of a really republican administration, it had no work to do, it quietly died, and was supposed to have been buried. Soon after the death of that committee certain gentlemen in the republican party, who thought the President was becoming too popular, devised the scheme of civil service reform, and under that cry they were now attempting to revive the old committee, with all its extraordinary powers of sending for persons and papers.

Mr. Nyre—Just where it is now. Give me another such set of circumstances and I will vote for it again. But there is no such occasion now. There is peace n the ranks now, save with one here and there who would be greater than his master. (Laughter.) The Senator from Missouri (Air. Schurz) talked yesterday about a Mr. Leet who is connected with the Custom House in New York, and called particular attention to the fact that during the war he was on General Grant's staff. For what purpose of insingular that the President had

water in the Cartage Business
He (Mr. Nye) did

facture a little quantification of the community of the provided in the community of the provided in the community of the com

sure,
THE LEGITIMATE SPIRAE OF THE COMEDIAN
is generally within the walls of the theatre; but if
the Senator is satisfied with the role he plays here
nobody else has reason to be dissatisfied. Those
who defend a bad cause always resort to
a certain line of defence. They attempt to
throw suspicion on the motives of those
who attack; so the Senator from Nevada (Mr. Nye)
like other Senators here, makes no attempt to disprove any of the facts that I stated yesterday, but
simply throws aspersions upon my motives, and acwho attack; so the Senator from Nevada (Mr. Nye) like other Senators here, makes no attempt to disprove any of the facts that I stated yesterday, but simply throws aspersions upon my motives, and accuses me of insinunting that Mr. Leels' service in the army should prevent him from obtaining employment in the civil service of the government, and that the President had something to do with the cartage business in New York. I wish to say a few words in reply to the Senator from New York (Mr. Conkling), the sand yesterday that the investigation of the New York Custom House was closed up by the Committee on Retrenchment has year. The committee on Retrenchment has year. The committee did undoubtedly believe that the case was closed, for it had reason to believe that when such scandals as it exposed were laid bare the administration would jump at the chance to put an end to the disgrace. But it turns out that they were vasily mistaken; for the same scandalous system of 100bery exists down to this day, in spite of the exposures made by the committee. The Senator asked also why we have proposed no legislation to remove these abuses? Because no legislation was necessary. The administration of the Custom House, and they could be done away with by the executive action in the administration of the Custom House, and they could be done away with by the executive Botion. The Senator objected to what I said of The Fowers which the distrains this system of robbery; when the Secretary of the Treasury had, time and agains, pronounced against it; when the committee on retremenment had pronounced against it; and when, still, it was sustained and kept alive down to this very day; I did say, in view of this evidence, that there must be some my setroine power sustaining that aystem, stronger than a december of the service of the service of the service of the pronounced than a gronger than

kept alive down to this very day; I did say, in view of this evidence, that there must be some mysterious power sustaining that ayatem, stronger than a decent regard for public opinion and stronger than the Secretary of the Treasury himself.

Mr. PATTERSON, (rep.) of N. H., here interposed to make an explanation, aud, in reply to a rema key my Mr. Trumbill, said:—I do say that there are inspectors in the Custom House in New York who stated before the committee, under oath, that, in violation of their official oaths and in violation of the laws of the land, they had taken bribes, and that

THEY TOOK BRIBES EVERY TIME

they discharged a vessel; and I say further that the agents of the steamship companies told me that they could not get their vessels discharged without bribing the officials.

Mr. SUMNER, (rep.) of Mass.—I should like to know whether those men are continued in office.

Mr. PATTERSON—I have no knowledge of their ever baving been removed. I know nothing about

Mr. Suhure. (rep.) of mass.—I should like to Mr. Patterson.—I have no knowledge of their ever baving been removed. I know nothing about it.

Mr. Schurz.—It appears to be clear that there is a monopoly on the North River of New York worth from fifey to a hundred thousand a year to those who have it; that it is denounced by the principal merebants of New York as a system of robbery; that it has been investigated by a special commission sent there by the Secretary of the Treasury; that in the report of that commission the system is designated as a very great abuse; that it has been investigated by the Committee on Retrenchment and condemmed by it also; and yet that it continues down to this very day. I defy any Senator, then, to say that the interence that there must be some mysterious power sustaining that system is not justified. The Senator from Indiana (Mr. Morton) says that my remarks yesterday cast a reflection on the republican party. How so? Do not we all profess to be in lavor of reform? And yet, when a member of this body attempts to lay bare a gross abuse the cry is raised that he is trying to injure the the republican party. My motives have been reflected upon, and I, and those with whom I act, have been asked what coject we pursue. I am ready to tell the Senate. My object is to discover, to denounce and to try to have corrected any and every abuse whenever I can lay my band upon it, without regard to how It will affect the interests or advantages of a party, and without regard to whether this or that person may like it or not. I am in favor of reform, and I am in dead carnest. I do not mean to denounce abuses on the other side and to shield abuses among my own friends. I want to put the Iron

TO THE VERY EOTTON OF THE SORE, and unless we do that we do nothing.

Mr. Tipton, (rep.) of Nob., followed in support of Mr. Tipton) in add no attack on the republican party; on the contrary, he desired to redeem that party from the curse that had come upon it through the sidministration. The motives of those who

lieved so, and had acted upon that belief, but he had been persecuted and punished for it ever sluce.

Mr. Trumbull's amendment was rejected by a vote of 24 yeas to 35 nays. The following republicans voted for it:—Messrs. Alcorn. Fenton, Logan, Patterson, Robertson, Schurz, Summer, Tipton, Irumbull, West and Wilson.

The original resolution was then adopted.

Mr. Trumbull, then moved to instruct the committee provided for in the resolution just adopted to inquire into all the subjects enumerated in his rejected amendment, and made a few remarks. He denied that he had done, or proposed, or said anything hostile to the administration or the remobiled party. He was astonneded at the ground by certain Senators in this debate. He was hostile to once who were not dishonest and corrupt; and would any Senator undertake to say that the administration or the party did not desire honesty in the government? The President had declared in layor of reform.

Mr. Morrow said that the drift of the debate was a reflection upon the republican party and an insinuation that it was corrupt.

Mr. Trumbull.—Have I ever said or intimated that?

Mr. Morrow replied that from the spirit of the

that?
Mr. Morron replied that from the spirit of the Sensior's remarks he inferred that he (Mr. Trumbull) did believe that gross corruption existed under the present administration, but he was giad now to find that he did not think so.

Mr. Trumbull said he believed that great spusses

did exist under this administration—abuses that had existed under all administrations. But he believed that the great increase in the amount of patronage had naturally caused an increase in the according had not said, however, that more corruption existed under this than under previous administrations. But then he wished this administrations between this than under previous administrations. But then he wished this administration to be better tunn all its predecessors, and the republican party to be purer than any other.

Mr. Mohton—I am giad to hear the Senator declare his devotion to the republican party, but I did understand the spirit of his speeches to be different. However, I accept his statement of his position. Now as to this question of geform. There seems to be a disposition on the part of some people in this country to become professional reformers pare exceptions. They seem to desire to monopolize that business and to set themselves up as the only men who hate corruption. Now I desire to say to those gentiemen, whoever they may be, that for one I shall not allow them to monopolize that business. I claim to be as good a reformer as any of them, although I do not make such high prefensions.

Mr. Thurbull said Mr. Morton was certainly kind to accept his statement, but he declined to answer him (Mr. Morton) for his republicanism and denied his right to call him to en account. That Senator (Mr. Morton) claimed to be a reformer, but he had a queer way of showing it. Not long ago, in a speech in 8t, Louis, he had eulogized the civil service as it stands at present.

Mr. Mouron remarked that in that speech he had

duer way of showing it. Not long ago, in a speech in St. Louis, he had culogized the civil service as it stands at present.

Mr. Morron remarked that in that speech he had said of the civil service that, while there were many reforms and improvements which could be made in it, and which the republican party would make, he did believe that on the whole we had the best civil service in the world, and he did say the same now.

Mr. TRUMBULL.—Well, if there is anywhere in the world a worse civil service than that of the United States, I pray God to deliver that people from it. (Laughter,) I feel less disposed than ever to submit my republicanism to the test of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. Morton) after his declaration that we have the best civil service in the world. My republicanism is not partisan. I care noulning for it except as a party of great principles, and if it ever comes to be used as a cover for frauds and inquiles the honest people of the country will overwhelm us, as they ought to.

At five P. M., without reaching a vote for Mr. Trumbull's motion, the Senate went into executive session, and soon after adjourned until Monday.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. WASHINGTON, D. C. Dec. 14, 1871.

Mr. BURGHARD, (rep.) of Ill., offered a resolution calling on the Secretary of the Treasury for in-the number of persons employed, "therefor, in the col-

employée as 100s.

gent expenses; also the total of the completes, same time in the United States for the constones, and for the crection, repair, completes, or furnishing of ension houses. Adopted.

AMERICAN IRON SHIP BUILDING.

By Mr. Kellooge, (rep.) of Conn.—A resolution directing that the portion of the report of the Secretary of the Treasury relating to the establishment and continuance of shipbuilding in the United States, Ac, be referred to the Committee on Commerce, and that said committee be directed to inquire into the expediency of paying a premium per ton upon American built iron steamers.

Adopted.

per ton upon American built iron steamers.
Adopted.

By Mr. Kellogo also, a resolution that so much of the report of the Secretary of the Navy as refers to the establishment of iron ship building yards and docks be referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs, and that they se directed to inquire into the expediency of establishing an iron ship building yard and dock at some point in the Mississippi Valley, and report by bill or otherwise. Adopted.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Buffingon, (rep.) of Mass., in the chair, and resumed the consideration of

THE APPORTIONMENT BILL.

Various propositions were made and discussed, principally turning on the number of Representatives of which the House should be composed. The number was eventually fixed at 283 on motion of Mr. Garrield, (rep.) of Ohio.

An amendment was also adopted, on motion of Mr. POTTER, (dem.) of N. Y., providing that no new state shall hereafter be admitted having a less population than the number fixed as the ratio of representation.

Finally the committee rose and reported the bill.

Mr. Niblack. (dom.) of Ind., moved to lay the

bill.
Mr. Niblack, (dom.) of Ind., moved to lay the bill on the table. Negatived—yeas 60, nays 145.
Mr. Fainsworth, (rep.) of Ill., moved to strike out Mr. Potter's amendment. Negatived—yeas 87,

Indiana..... Oregon
Kansas
West Virginia
Nevada
Nebraska The House then, at twenty minutes past four P. adjourned until to-morrow.

THE POLICE AND THE PANEL

How the Thing is Worked-Conviction of sions Yesterday. MINNIE GRIPPITHS AND JOHN DAVIS.

A well dressed and rather prepossessing looking female was brought up before Judge Dowling at the Court of Special Sessions yesterday, charged by Pasquale Parianza, an Italian, with the roobery of Pasquale Partanza, an Italian, street. It appears \$10, in the house 59 Bleecker street. It appears that the prisoner hired some rooms in the house, representing herself as THE WIFE OF SERGEANT GRIPP.THE.

of the Fourteenth precinct. In one room was a door, which had been cut in the partition dividing

THE WIFE OF SERGEANT GRIPP.THS,
of the Fourteenth precinct. In one room was a
door, which had been cut in the partition dividing
the front from the rear room. He complainant,
who was wandering in the locality some nights
since, encountered the woman ciristins, and was
induced by her plausible representations to accompany her to ner rooms. While she was making love
to him by putting her arms round his neck and covering his eyes with her hands
THE ROOM WAS ENTERD,
and \$10 taken from his pantaloons po kels. From
the evidence taken it appeared that Partanga
had \$2.50 on entering the house. He paid
the woman \$5; \$10, as above stated, were
taken from him; \$5 were found on the
floor, and the remainder went for five glasses of
brandy and an oysier staw. The refreshments
were procured in the basement under the nome,
which the prisoner, Davis, had, it seems,
when persons were entering the house. When the
Italian and the woman driffiths had passed in be
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italian to the remaining the passed his money. On accusing the woman of the robbery,
when partanga left the bouse, accompanied by
Minnie, he proceeded to get the brandy and
officer. He held her by the arm, when
the male prisoner came up, and selizing him, threatend if he would not let his wife alone
He would Note it has wife alone
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the man prisoner came up, and selizing him, threatended if he would not let his wife alone
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